

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAP UCLA Presents
Douglas J. Cuomo's *Seven Limbs*
Featuring Nels Cline and the Aizuri Quartet**

Feb. 12; Online



"[Nels Cline is an] avant-guitarist extraordinaire." — Time Out NY

"[The Aizuri Quartet] are expert collaborators, who cogently traverse a range of repertoire staples and modern works." — The New York Times

"Like the best of today's composers...Cuomo has developed a lingua franca that is international enough to allow the speakers of different musical languages to communicate... The music occupies a space that is not bound by geography or chronology." — John Schaefer (WNYC)

[UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance \(CAP UCLA\)](#) presents Douglas J. Cuomo's *Seven Limbs* featuring Nels Cline and the Aizuri Quartet on Friday, February 12 at 7 p.m. PST through [CAP UCLA Online](#). This performance will be free to enjoy. For more information on engaging with this season's digital stage, visit [CAP Connect](#).

This new composition by Cuomo is a ritual in seven movements, based on the Seven Limbs, which is a fundamental Tibetan Buddhist practice of purification. The limbs are Prostration; Offering; Confession; Rejoicing; Requesting the Turning of the Wheel of Dharma; Beseeching the Buddhas not to pass away; and Dedication.

Cline will be playing electric guitar with effects and acoustic guitar. His music will be partially notated, following specific direction and guidelines in the score, but largely improvised. The Aizuri's music will be entirely notated, utilizing their full range of techniques.

Juxtaposing Nels' wildly inventive guitar playing with the Aizuri's modern classical outlook, *Seven Limbs* will be a virtuosic tour de force. *Seven Limbs* sets these five expert musicians in a landscape that is slightly unfamiliar — where the ground under their feet is always shifting in unexpected ways. This requires musical alertness and philosophical openness to whatever the moment brings, an outlook that parallels the Buddhist practice.

Inspired by this thinking, the piece allows exploration of meditative tranquility, the battle with inner demons, karma, and sudden, profound insight. Both strings and the guitar will be shapeshifters in that the roles of soloist and accompanist will be fluid — at times the guitar will be in front, with the string quartet playing a more supportive role; at other times the guitar will conjure a multi-layered and evolving drone-like sonic environment and the strings will step to the fore. There will also be many instances of when both will be on equal footing, intertwining in a way that makes such distinctions moot.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAP UCLA Presents

[Douglas J. Cuomo's *Seven Limbs*](#)
[Featuring Nels Cline and the Aizuri Quartet](#)

Friday, February 12, 2021, at 7 p.m. PST

Video on demand: February 14, 2021, at 7 p.m. for 48 hours

Free; [Watch](#)

Artists website: [Douglas J. Cuomo](#) | [Nels Cline](#) | [Aizuri Quartet](#)

ABOUT CAP UCLA

[UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance](#) (CAP UCLA) is the public-facing research and presenting organization for the performing arts at the University of California, Los Angeles—one of the world's leading public research universities. We are housed within the UCLA School of the Arts & Architecture along with the Hammer and Fowler museums. The central pursuit of our work as an organization is to sustain the

diversity of contemporary performing artists while celebrating their contributions to culture. We acknowledge, amplify and support artists through major presentations, commissions and creative development initiatives. Our programs offer audiences a direct connection to the ideas, perspectives and concerns of living artists. Through the lens of dance, theater, music, literary arts, digital media arts and collaborative disciplines, informed by diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, artists and audiences come together in our theaters and public spaces to explore new ways of seeing that expands our understanding of the world we live in now.

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PRESS REQUESTS: Contact Communications Manager Geena Russo, geena@arts.ucla.edu.

IMAGES: Images for the 2020-21 season are available for download [here](#). Photo Credits: Douglas J Cuomo: Dan Fried, H&H Photographers; Nels Cline: Nathan West; Aizuri Quartet: Shervin Lainez